

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INRE-00

ERDE-00 ACDE-00 /026 W

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O 171700Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9985

S E C R E T MOSCOW 2340

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: PLENARY MEETING, 2/17/76

ROUND VI - TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 56

1. SUMMARY: US ASKED SOVIETS FOR REPLY TO SEVERAL PROPOSALS MADE PREVIOUSLY. SOVIETS SAID WOULD DEAL WITH THEM IN SEQUENTIAL, ONE-AT-A-TIME, ORDER, ACCORDING TO SOVIET AGENDA. SOVIETS PRESSED FOR US ANSWER TO EQUIPMENT PROPOSAL AND FOR DETAILS OF SEISMIC NETWORK. SOVIETS REFUSED TO DISCUSS OTHER ISSUES SAYING WOULD STATE POSITION AT PROPER TIME. MOROKHOV ALSO INSISTED THAT SOVIET APPROACH ONLY ACCEPTABLE BASIS FOR DEALING WITH CANISTERS LONGER THAN 10 METERS, WHICH "MUST BE DEALT WITH NOW." END SUMMARY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ABOUT EXAMINATION OF EQUIPMENT IN SOVIET PROPOSAL, MOROKHOV SUMMARIZED PROPOSAL AND SAID IT REQUIRED THAT HOST PARTY EXAMINE EQUIPMENT, BUT IN PRESENCE OF DESIGNATED PERSONNEL. HE CHARACTERIZED IT AS COMPROMISE BETWEEN THEIR PROPOSAL FOR EXAMINATION WITHOUT OBSERVERS AND US PROPOSAL FOR EXAMINATION IN PRESENCE OF OBSERVERS. EQUIPMENT SET HELD BY HOST REFERRED TO AS "HOSTAGE". IN DISCUSSION, US ASKED IF INTENT WAS TO EXAMINE BOTH SETS--ONE TO BE USED FOR VERIFICATION AS WELL AS "HOSTAGE" SET. SOVIETS REPLIED EXAMINATION OF "HOSTAGE" SET WAS OPTION THAT COULD BE EXERCISED BY HOST PARTY AS

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IT SAW FIT.

3. STOESSEL ASKED FOR SOVIET REPLY TO US PROPOSALS ALREADY SUBMITTED. THESE PROPOSALS INCLUDE NUMBER OF DESIGNATED PERSONNEL, OBSERVER PROVISIONS IN RANGE OF YIELDS 100 TO 150 KILOTONS. MOROKHOV STATED THESE AND OTHER ITEMS SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN SEQUENTIAL ORDER ACCORDING TO "AGREED AGENDA SEQUENCE". MOROKHOV, REFERRING TO LISTS OF OUTSTANDING ITEMS EXCHANGED JAN. 27 SAID PRINCIPLE INVOLVED FOR YIELDS BETWEEN 100 TO 150 KILOTONS IS WHETHER OBSERVERS HAVE RIGHT TO BE ON-SITE OR CAN BE PRESENT ONLY IF INVITED. SOVIETS REFUSED DISCUSS ITEMS AND SAID US NOT RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS OF SOVIETS IN TIMELY MANNER, PRINCIPALLY FEB 16 PROPOSAL ON EQUIPMENT. SOVIET SIDE, MOROKHOV CONCLUDED, OWES US SIDE NOTHING.

4. MOROKHOV ASKED WHY US HAS NOT ANSWERED TECHNICAL QUESTIONS ON SEISMIC INSTRUMENTS (MOSCOW 2274). SAID SOVIETS NEED DETAILED INFORMATION, INCLUDING PUBLICATIONS, TO PROCEED ON SEISMIC INSTRUMENT PROVISIONS. US REPLIED THAT WE HAD ASKED FOR INFORMATION ON QUESTIONS POSED FEB 16, BUT COULD NOT PROMISE PUBLICATIONS. US SIDE ASKED WHEN SOVIETS WERE GOING TO DESCRIBE THEIR SEISMIC EQUIPMENT. MOROKHOV SAID RODIONOV WOULD ATTEND TO THIS.

5. MOROKHOV SAID PROVISIONS GOVERNING PRESENCE OF OBSERVERS IN RANGE OF 100 TO 150 KILOTONS TIED IN WITH QUESTION OF YIELD LIMITS ON SINGLE EXPLOSIONS AND GROUP EXPLOSIONS, AND THESE MATTERS SHOULD ALL BE DISCUSSED AT SAME TIME.

6. MOROKHOV DISCUSSED FURTHER SOVIET INTEREST IN INCLUDING PROVISION TO COVER CANISTER LONGER THAN 10 METERS. THIS HAS BEEN ADDRESSED IN LAST TWO MEETINGS OF WORKING GROUP I, WITH TIMERBAEV CLAIMING THAT SINCE SOVIET AND US VIEWS OF QUESTION SEEMED COMPARABLE, THEY COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY LANGUAGE NOT QUICKLY AGREED. IT POINTED OUT TO TIMERBAEV THAT SOVIET APPROACH: (A) WOULD ENSHRINE EXCEPTIONS (TO WHICH US COULD NOT AGREE); (B) IMPLIES AGREEMENT TO LONGER THAN 10-METER SECRET

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CANISTER, WITH EMPLACEMENT DETAILS TO BE AGREED IN FUTURE ON AD HOC BASIS (PUTTING BURDEN ON VERIFYING SIDE TO VETO SPECIFIC PROJECTS, WHICH UNACCEPTABLE TO US); (C) ALREADY FULLY COVERED BY AMENDMENT ARTICLE PROVIDING FOR POSSIBILITY FOR FUTURE CHANGES AS AGREED BETWEEN PARTIES. FINALLY, IT WAS MADE CLEAR TO TIMERBAEV THAT IF LONGER THAN 10-METER CANISTER TO BE PERMITTED GENERAL PROVISIONS COVERING ALL ASPECTS OF

SUCH SITUATION SHOULD BE AGREED AS PART OF CURRENT NEGOTIATING EFFORT, AND INCLUDED IN TEXT NOW -- NOT LEFT TO FUTURE. MOROKHOV PRESSED ON THIS IN PLENARY, STATING THAT ONLY SOVIET AD HOC APPROACH ACCEPTABLE; IT TOO DIFFICULT TO ESTABLISH GENERAL PROVISION FOR LONGER THAN 10-METER CANISTER BECAUSE THERE ARE TOO MANY FUTURE VARIABLES. HE SAID USSR WOULD NOT AGREE TO "MORATORIUM" ON CANISTERS LONGER THAN 10 METERS.

COMMENT: MOROKHOV CURRENT POSITION IN TOTAL CONTRAST TO HIS EARLIER STATEMENT THAT AGREEMENT SHOULD CONTAIN EXPLICIT PROVISION PROHIBITING CANISTERS LONGER THAN 10-METERS. END COMMENT.

7. SOVIET SIDE TOLD BOTH AT WORKING GROUP I MEETING (BUCHHEIM TO TIMERBAEV) AND PLENARY (STOESSEL TO MOROKHOV) THAT US SIDE DECLINES SOVIET OFFER OF TRIP DURING MOROKHOV ABSENCE. SOVIETS TOLD THAT SO LONG AS US DELEGATION HERE IT WISHED TO WORK, AND HAD AIM, AND INTEREST, IN FINISHING JOB.  
STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** NEGOTIATIONS, MEASURING INSTRUMENTS, PEACEFUL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 FEB 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X3  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS: PLENARY MEETING, 2/17/76 ROUND VI - TTBT/PNE DELEGATION MESSAGE NO. 56  
**TAGS:** PARM, US, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006